



Town of Garrett Park
PO Box 84
4600 Waverly Avenue
Garrett Park, Maryland 20896

Regular Meeting of Town Council
Garrett Park Town Hall
10814 Kenilworth Avenue
Garrett Park, Maryland 20896

Town Council Meeting: 14 April 2014

Minutes

Call to Order: Mayor Benjamin called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. Present were Councilmembers Chantry, Flynn, Schulp, Wegner, and Welch. Also present were Town Manager Swearingen, Council candidates Michael Lutkenhouse and Liz Overstreet, a small number of Town residents and Margaret Soltan from the Bugle.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

Presentations by Residents: Michael Lutkenhouse, representing the Citizens Association, asked if the Town had a policy regarding signs notifying residents of upcoming meetings and events. Specifically he asked if such a sign could be located at the triangle at Kenilworth and Waverly Aves. Mayor Benjamin noted the positive response to the idea from all of the Council members and suggested that the Citizens Association present the Council with specific design suggestions. Mayor Benjamin also noted that the Town Council might be willing to pay for a sign once a design is agreed to.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 14, 2014 regular meeting were approved as presented without objection.

Action: - Approval of the Fiscal Year 2015 Operating and Capital Budgets. Mayor Benjamin discussed Ordinance 2014-2, the FY2015 Operating and Capital Budgets, and answered questions from Council members and the audience. Councilmember Schulp MOVED approval of Ordinance 2014-2, Councilmember Wegner SECONDED and it was approved unanimously. The approved Ordinance is attached.

Appointment of Kathy Gagnon to the Archives Committee. Mayor Benjamin informed the Council that resident Kathy Gagnon had expressed interest in working on the Town Archives Committee and that currently there was a vacancy on that committee. Mayor Benjamin requested ratification by the Town Council of his appointment of Ms. Gagnon to the Archives Committee. Councilmember Flynn MOVED to ratify the appointment, Councilmember Chantry SECONDED and it was ratified unanimously.

Discussion: - In an update of the nominations for election of town officials, Town Manager Swearingen reminded residents that Election Day is May 5, 2014. He also

noted that nominations were closed effective at 4:00 PM on April 14. The candidates for election are:

Mayor:	Peter Benjamin
Council:	Tara Flynn Michael Lutkenhouse Liz Overstreet Hans Wegner

All candidates have submitted their financial disclosure statements. Preparations for the election are on schedule.

Mayor Benjamin explained that the three Election Judges had been appointed for two-year terms by the Town Council last year and have agreed to serve again this year.

- Councilmember Flynn provided background and an update on the status of the Personnel Policy development and requested that a work session be scheduled for April 28 to have the Mayor and Council review the most recent draft. The Council agreed to that date and scheduled the meeting for 7:30 PM at the Town Office.
- Councilmember Wegner gave a status report on the paving project which has been completed. He was very complimentary of the work done by the paving contractor, M. T. Laney, and noted that many residents had also been complimentary of the work. Town Manager Swearingen reported that he had inspected the completed project with the contractor and the Town's engineer from Chester Engineers and that a final closeout of the project would occur later in the week. Councilmember Chantry asked whether the new speed bumps were larger than previous ones. Councilmember Wegner affirmed that the new speed bumps were built to federal specifications and are actually a bit longer than the previous speed humps.
- Mayor Benjamin notified the Council that he would be out of the country for the May Council meeting. The Council members decided to move the meeting date to Wednesday, May 28 in order for the Mayor to attend. Councilmember Welch pointed out a conflict with the June Council meeting and the Maryland Municipal League annual conference. The Council decided to move the June meeting to Monday, June 16. Town Council candidates Lutkenhouse and Overstreet also agreed to the meeting date changes. Mayor Benjamin requested that the meeting date changes be posted as soon as possible on the Web site, at the Post Office and on both Town electronic mailing lists.

The Town Manager's Report.

- The Financial Report and the Manager's report were discussed and are attached to these minutes.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

[TOWN SEAL]

Gene Swearingen, Clerk-Treasurer